

Whereas more than 1,100 families and other property owners were called upon to sacrifice their farms and homes for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations that would visit the Great Smoky Mountains National Park;

Whereas the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established as a completed park by the Act entitled "An Act to establish a minimum area for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and for other purposes", approved June 15, 1934 (16 U.S.C. 403g);

Whereas the Great Smoky Mountains National Park covers approximately 521,621 acres of land in the States of Tennessee and North Carolina, making it the largest protected area in the Eastern United States;

Whereas the Great Smoky Mountains National Park provides sanctuary for the most diverse flora and fauna of any national park in the temperate United States, and preserves an unparalleled collection of historic structures as a "time capsule" of Appalachian culture during the 19th and early 20th centuries;

Whereas, on September 2, 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Great Smoky Mountains National Park;

Whereas the Great Smoky Mountains National Park has been the most popular national park in the United States since it opened, and attracts between 9,000,000 and 10,000,000 visitors each year, making it the most visited of the 58 national parks in the United States; and

Whereas visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park contribute more than \$700,000,000 to the local economy each year, resulting in more than 14,000 jobs in North Carolina and Tennessee: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the citizens of Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee for their vision and sacrifice;

(2) commends the people of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the National Park Service for 75 years of successful management and preservation of the park land;

(3) congratulates the people of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park on the 75th anniversary of the park; and

(4) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display to the headquarters of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

COMMEMORATING THE END OF COMMUNIST RULE IN POLAND

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 139 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 139) commemorating the 20th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Poland.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action

or debate, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 139) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 139

Whereas in January 1947, the communist Democratic Bloc party seized control of the Polish Parliament in a rigged election orchestrated by the Government of the Soviet Union;

Whereas, from 1947 to 1952, the communist Government of Poland prosecuted, imprisoned, and executed many individuals who fought as part of the wartime Underground Resistance, an organization that valiantly supported the Allied struggle against Nazi Germany as part of the largest resistance movement in occupied Europe;

Whereas in July 1952, the passage of a new constitution formally created the communist People's Republic of Poland and outlawed any non-communist candidate from seeking office to represent the people of Poland;

Whereas during the ensuing years of communist rule, the people of Poland suffered severe hardships because of the communist-led government's failure to provide for the basic economic needs of its people;

Whereas under communist rule, Polish intellectuals, religious leaders, labor officials, students, and reformers were imprisoned and exiled for speaking out against a succession of increasingly corrupt, inefficient, and repressive pro-Soviet puppets;

Whereas despite the harsh repression of the communist-led government and the great personal risk they faced, the Polish people struggled for freedom by staging strikes, publishing underground newspapers, organizing street protests, and speaking out against the economic and political failures of the communist regime;

Whereas in August 1980, in the wake of a shipyard workers' strike in Gdansk, the Solidarity Movement was created as the first free trade union in the Soviet Bloc nations;

Whereas ultimately 1 in 4 Polish citizens became members of the Solidarity movement, which served as the driving force for Poland's liberation from communist rule;

Whereas, on June 4, 1989, the Solidarity Party secured an overwhelming victory over the existing communist government in the first open election in Poland since the end of World War II, marking the fall of pro-Soviet rule in Poland; and

Whereas this victory inspired a succession of similarly peaceful transitions from communism to democracy in other former Soviet Bloc nations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 20th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Poland;

(2) expresses its admiration for the people of Poland for their bravery and resolve in the face of economic hardship and political oppression under communist rule;

(3) congratulates the people of Poland for their accomplishments in the years since the end of pro-Soviet communist rule in building a free democracy, and for their contributions as international partners;

(4) expresses its appreciation for the close friendship between the Government of the United States and the Government of Poland; and

(5) urges the Government of the United States to continue to seek new ways to enhance its partnership with the Government of Poland.

RECOGNIZING FOUNDING OF BREAD FOR THE WORLD

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 157.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 157) recognizing Bread for the World on the 35th anniversary of its founding, for its faithful advocacy on behalf of poor and hungry people in our country and around the world.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 157) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 157

Whereas Bread for the World, now under the leadership of the Reverend David Beckmann, has grown in size and influence, and is now the largest grassroots advocacy network on hunger issues in the United States and on behalf of impoverished people overseas;

Whereas members of Bread for the World believe that by addressing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, they are providing help and opportunity far beyond the communities in which they live;

Whereas Bread for the World has inspired the engagement of hundreds of thousands of individuals, more than 8,000 congregations, and more than 50 denominations across the religious spectrum to seek justice for hungry and poor people by making our Nation's laws more fair and compassionate to people in need;

Whereas members of Bread for the World use hand-written letters and other personalized forms of communication to convey to their legislators their moral concern for the needs of mothers, children, small farmers, and other hungry and poor people; and

Whereas Bread for the World has a strong record of success in working with Congress to—

(1) strengthen our national nutrition programs;

(2) establish and fund the Child Survival account that has helped reduce child mortality rates worldwide;

(3) increase and improve the Nation's poverty-focused development assistance to help developing countries in Africa and other underprivileged parts of the world;

(4) pass the Africa: Seeds of Hope Act of 1998 that redirected United States resources toward small-scale farmers and struggling rural communities in Africa;

(5) lead an effort to provide debt relief to the world's poorest countries and tie debt relief to poverty reduction; and

(6) establish an emergency grain reserve to improve the Nation's response to humanitarian crises: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—